

**CHAPTER NO. 47**

**SENATE BILL NO. 299**

**By Kurita**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 307

By Scroggs, Todd

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 7, relative to the victim-witness coordinator program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-7-206, is amended by deleting items one (1) through six (6) and substituting instead the following:

(1) After the return of an indictment or presentment, advising victims of their rights under Tennessee Code Annotated, 40-38-101 et seq.;

(2) After the return of an indictment or presentment, keeping victims and witnesses informed of court dates and actions affecting their cases, including evidentiary hearings, trial dates, and sentencing hearings as provided for in Tennessee Code Annotated, 40-38-111;

(3) After the return of an indictment or presentment, assisting victims and witnesses to better understand the way the criminal justice system works, including the procedure and basis for continuances of cases and the procedure involved in the plea bargaining process;

(4) After the return of an indictment or presentment, assisting victims to become more involved in the processes which affect the perpetrator of the crime, such as the plea bargaining process, including presentence reports and the sentencing hearing itself;

(5) Assisting in obtaining restitution to victims of crime directly from the perpetrator of the crime when possible; and

(6) Assisting eligible victims in obtaining benefits from the criminal injuries compensation program.

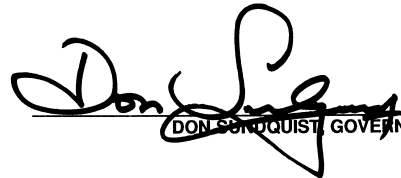
SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: March 26, 2001

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April 2001

  
DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR